The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 07 of 2015

WHEREAS, April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month and calls attention to the fact that sexual violence and child abuse is widespread and impacts every person in this community; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, and youth ages 12-17 were two and a half times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, on campus, one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted during their time in college; and

WHEREAS, child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before the age 18; and

WHEREAS, the Centre County Women's Resource Center offers programs to educate our community about sexual violence and child abuse prevention, and provides services to support survivors; and

WHEREAS, every year, millions of people's lives are forever changed by crime and will have life-changing injuries or need ongoing care and support. They are our families, neighbors, friends, and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, let us honor Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention Month by taking action to create a safer environment for all and renew our commitment to end sexual assault and child abuse in Centre County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the work done by agencies and organizations that provide services to victims and honor survivors, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of April as "Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention Month" and urge all citizens to play a role in the elimination of violence in our community.

ADOPTED this 7th day of April 2015

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steven G. Dershem, Chairman

Chris Exarchos

Michael

ATTEST

Timothy T. Boyde, Director Administrative Services